

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT OPERATIONS

Art Unit:

1742 (Examiner: McNelis, Kathleen A.)

Applicants:

STEPHEN M. POTTER

JOHN CLARK

Serial No:

10/789,696

Filed:

February 27, 2004

Title:

PRE-TREATMENT PROCESS FOR FEED MATERIAL FOR

DIRECT REDUCTION PROCESS

Charlotte, North Carolina February 14, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment Honorable Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AFTER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.114

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action mailed on January 31, 2006, and the RCE mailed on February 3, 2006, kindly enter this preliminary amendment, which supersedes the amendment filed with the RCE.

Amendment of the Claims begins on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4

02-15-06

CO IFW

Under the Paperwork Reduction	on Act of 1995, no persons a	re required to re	U.S. Patent and spond to a collection of in	Approve Trademar	od for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 k Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE unless it displays a valid OMB control number.
and the same		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Application Number		10/789,696
TRANSMITTAL			Filing Date		02/27/2004
FORM			First Named Inve	ntor	Stephen M. Potter
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)			Group Art Unit		1742
			Examiner Name		Kathleen A. McNelis
Total Number of Pages in This Submission			Attorney Docket N	lumber	3566
		ENCL	OSURES (c	heck a	il that apply)
	cclaration(s) Request ment Request cure Statement criority mg Parts/ tion	Assignm (for an A Drawing Licensin Petition Provision Power of Change Address Termina Request Request CD, Nur Parts/ Certificate Return Re		ailing	After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
	SIGNATUR	E OF APPLI	CANT, ATTORNEY	Y, OR A	GENT
Firm or Individual name	F. Rhett Brockington DOUGHERTY CLEMENTS				
Signature	nature -7. Rhitt Ball				
Date 02/14/2006					
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Docket	3566	

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